

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 00825

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNSC, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP: SOVIET VIEWS

REF: (A) STATE 42020, (B) TOKYO 2965 (NOTAL)

1. AMB LEONARD AGAIN MARCH 7 RAISED WITH SOVIET PERMREP TROYANOVSKY QUESTION OF PERMANENT SECURITY COUNCIL SEAT FOR JAPAN. SUGGESTING IT MIGHT BE EASIER FOR SOVIETS TO REPLY TO LESS COMPLEX QUESTION THAN THE ONE PUT TO THEM EARLIER, HE ASKED WHETHER THEY SAW ANY WAY FOR JAPAN TO OBTAIN A PERMANENT SEAT ON THE COUNCIL. TROYANOVSKY, WITHOUT EVEN CONSULTING WITH HIS COLLEAGUES, REPLIED WITH UNEQUIVOCAL "NO". HE NOTED THAT THIS WOULD REQUIRE A CHANGE IN THE CHARTER AND THAT USSR WAS AGAINST ANY CHANGE.

2. LEONARD THEN SUGGESTED THAT ONE VERY SMALL CHANGE MIGHT BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT OPENING PANDORA'S BOX AND ASKED SOVIET ATTITUDE TOWARD SIMPLE DELETION OF THE LAST SENTENCE OF CHARTER ARTICLE 23(2) WHICH DEALS WITH SC
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COMPOSITION. SENTENCE READS: "ARETIRING MEMBER SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR IMMEDIATE RE-ELECTION." LEONARD POINTED OUT SUCH CHANGE WOULD MAKE IT AT LEAST TECHNICALLY POSSIBLE FOR JAPAN TO BECOME A PERMANENT "NON-PERMANENT MEMBER" OF SC. TROYANOVSKY REJECTED THIS IDEA AS WELL, WONDERING HOW YOU WOULD DEAL WITH INDIA AND OTHERS WHO ALSO FEEL ENTITLED TO A MORE OR LESS PERMANENT PLACE ON

COUNCIL. HE ALSO REITERATED SOVIET OPPOSITION TO CHARTER AMENDMENT, EVEN IF SUBJECT WERE APPROACHED ON RESTRICTED BASIS LEONARD HAD SUGGESTED.

3. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT LONG DELAY IN SOVIET RESPONSE DID IN FACT RESULT FROM COMPLEXITY OF SERIES OF ALTERNATIVES WHICH WE PRESENTED TO THEM AND THEIR DESIRE TO ADDRESS EACH OF THEM. WE DO NOT THINK THAT ESSENTIALLY NEGATIVE CHARACTER OF SOVIET RESPONSE HAS EVER BEEN IN DOUBT AND WE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO ENVISAGE CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS WHICH COULD LEAD THEM TO REVIEW THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARD CHARTER AMENDMENT. AS ONE EVIDENCE TO THIS EFFECT, TROYANOVSKY -- AT CONCLUSION OF ABOVE DISCUSSION -- REGISTERED CONCERN AT POSSIBILITY THAT OUR UN REFORM PACKAGE, SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS AND CIRCULATED TO MISSIONS HERE, MIGHT BE SERIOUSLY PUT INTO PLAY AT CURRENT SESSION OF CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE. LEONARD ASSURED HIM THAT ALTHOUGH WE TOOK SERIOUSLY IDEAS SET FORTH IN THIS REPORT TO CONGRESS, WE DID NOT ENVISAGE THAT CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE WOULD BE LOCUS FOR ACTION ON IT -- IN PART BECAUSE OUR APPRECIATION OF DIFFICULTY OF MANAGING ANY LIMITED AMENDMENT OF CHARTER WAS NOT VERY DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF SOVIETS. YOUNG

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